SI. No.	Circles	Total No. of Villages	VPT Target for the year 2000-2001	Villages with VPTs as oo 31.01.2001	Villages left uncovered as on 1.2.2001
28.	Calcutta	468	47	421	47
29.	Delhi	191	0	191	0
	TOTAL	607491	100000	393722	213769

Disconnection of Phones

† 584. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints from different parts of the country regarding disconnection of telephones even after making payments of telephone bills;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any concrete steps in this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Normally telephones are disconnected due to non payment of dues. However, in rare cases telephone may get disconnected on account of late receipt of information about payments made in Post Offices or in designated banks.

(b) and (c) Steps regarding computerizing billing and accounting have been taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, to facilitate immediate linking of payment particulars to avoid disconnection.

VRS in MTNL

† 585. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is formulating a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for its

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.